MULTIMEDIA UNIVERSITY

STUDENT ID NO

MULTIMEDIA UNIVERSITY

FINAL EXAMINATION

TRIMESTER 2 2016/2017

LRV0025
READING AND VOCABULARY: SKILLS AND STRATEGIES 2

(All Sections / Groups)

25 FEBRUARY 2017
9.00 a.m – 11.00 a.m

(2 hours)

INSTRUCTIONS TO STUDENT

1. This question paper consists of **EIGHT** printed pages with **THREE** sections only.
2. Answer **ALL** questions in Section A, Section B and Section C.
3. Please write **ALL** your answers in the Answer Booklet provided.

SECTION A: READING COMPREHENSION [35 MARKS]

Question 1 (20 marks)
Instructions: Read the passage carefully and answer ALL questions that follow.

Social Media and Interpersonal Communication

1 Glance around a restaurant and you'll be hard-pressed to find people who don't have their heads down using their cell phones to text, tweet, or update their Facebook statuses while sharing a meal with others at their table. Social media's effect on our ability to interact and communicate is visible throughout all areas of society, so what does this mean for interpersonal communication? According to Paul Booth, social media certainly affects how we engage with one another across all venues and ages. "There has been a shift in the way we communicate; rather than face-to-face interaction, we tend to prefer mediated communication," he says. "We'd rather email than meet; we'd rather text than talk on the phone."

2 According to Booth, studies have shown that people are actually becoming more social and more interactive with others, but the style of communication has changed so that we're not meeting face-to-face as often as we used to. ***It*** means that our interactions on social media tend to be weak ties. We don't feel as personally connected to the people at the other end of our communication as we do when we're face-to-face. "So while we're communicating more, we may not necessarily be building relationships as strongly," Booth says.

3 He also mentions about three key issues that are surfacing now regarding the role of social media in people's communication styles. First, when we communicate through social media, we tend to trust people on the other end of the communication, so our messages tend to be more open. Second, our social connections are not strengthened as much through social media as they are face-to-face, so we don't tend to deepen our relationships and they tend to exist in the status quo. Last, we tend to follow and interact with people who agree with our points of view, so we aren't getting the same diversity of viewpoints as we've gotten in the past."Certainly, with every new communication technology come changes in the style and type of interpersonal communication," Booth says. "Obviously the bigger the influence of the technology, the more changes we see in communication styles."

4 Nicholas David Bowman, an assistant professor of communication studies at West Virginia University says, actions that trigger a bad online relationship are likely the same ones that trigger a bad relationship in real life when only the modality has changed. "For example, cyberbullying has been largely the same antecedents and behavioral, emotional, and affective consequences as non cyberbullying," Bowman says. "Yet the difference is 'more' when social media allows for more contact, more communication, and in a more public manner." In a bullying incident, often the person being bullied can remove himself or herself from the environment, at least temporarily. For example, a child being bullied at school can escape the playground when he or she goes home each night. "However, cyber bullying is marked by its persistence," Bowman says. "The bullying messages don't stay in a particular space, such as a playground, but ***they*** can follow the child home. If we consider that bullying effects on an individual can build over time, then there is a real concern that increasing contact between bullies and their

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targets in persistent and digital interactions might exacerbate the problem."

5 One big concern surrounding social media's impact is communication overload and learning how to handle and make sense of this "more" information we now have. As Bowman explains, we're getting more information about more people than ever before, and we feel a need to process and perhaps even respond to it all. "In fact, there has been some very recent data suggesting that teens are perhaps pulling away from Facebook because it's just too much for them to handle," he says. Another concern lies in technology addiction, when individuals spend more time with their smart phone than interacting with the people around them, to the detriment of those face-to-face relationships. "It may be the parent checking his or her e-mail during a family dinner or the young college student updating Twitter while on a first date," Bowman says. "For these people, they likely feel such a strong sense of identity online that they have some difficulty separating their virtual actions from their actual ones." Internet addiction now will be listed as a mental illness marked by emotional shutdown, lack of concentration, and withdrawal symptoms, so we may be closer to diagnosing and understanding socially detrimental human-technology relationships.

6 One potentially negative consequence of social media is a lack of privacy. "Because interpersonal communication is changing, we're finding ourselves more apt to share on social media the sort of information we might have previously shared privately face-to-face," Booth says. "We always have to keep in mind that our social networks are searchable; even when privacy settings are set extremely high, it's always possible to find out personal information." Of course, the negativity surrounding social media is countered by positive influences, including the ability to communicate with more people across greater distances and with increased speed. "Your message can be shared and spread farther and faster than at any other time in human history," Booth says. "We can do a lot of good by spreading positive messages in this way."

7 What does the future hold for social media and its potential continuous effect on interpersonal communication within society? Bowman believes social media will likely continue to become increasingly integrated into the normal human experience like most of the communication technologies that preceded it. "They will continue to increase the volume of the human communication process, and we will continue to learn how to use ***them*** for good and for bad," he says. "We must remember that social media is only a decade old. That's very young in the history of communication technology," Booth adds. "It's been influential, but it hasn't really settled into a routine yet. As social media becomes more normalized, we'll stop seeing it as changing things and start seeing it as the way things are. As a society, we'll be OK and we've always adjusted to new technology. So whether it's wearable communication media, such as Google glasses, or more cloud computing, we'll change and adapt."

Adapted from: Keller,M. (2013,June).*Social Media and Interpersonal Communication.* Retrieved on 21st November 2016 from http://www.socialworktoday.com/archive/051313p10.shtml

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Question I (5 marks)
Instructions: Find a word in the passage for each of the meanings below.

a. able to be seen (Paragraph 1)
b. make something worse (Paragraph 4)
c. the state of being harmed or damaged (Paragraph 5)
d. appropriate or suitable (Paragraph 6)
e. came before something in time (Paragraph 7)

Question II (3 marks)
Instructions: Provide the references for the following pronouns in the passage.

a. ***it*** (line 12)
b. ***they*** (line 40)
c. ***them*** (line 76)

Question III (12 marks)
Instructions: Answer the following questions in complete sentences.

a. What are the main issues surrounding social media's role in our communication styles? (3 marks)

b. What tone did Bowman used when he said "It may be the parent checking his or her e-mail during a family dinner or the young college student updating Twitter while on a first date." (line 53) Provide a reason to support your answer. (2 marks)

c. What are the drawbacks of social media to human relationship? (3 marks)

d. "So whether it's wearable communication media, such as Google glasses, or more cloud computing, we'll change and adapt." What can you interpret from this sentence? (2 marks)

e. In your opinion, how can interpersonal communication be improved using communication technologies? (2 marks)

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Question 2 (15 marks)
Instructions: Create a suitable diagram that shows **the process of recycling.**

The process of recycling involves several stages. This process, which is called the recycling chain, begins with the consumer who generates the waste and finally ends with the consumer using recycled products.

The recycling chain begins with the consumer who can be either an individual household or an organization. The waste generated by the household or the organization is separated according to different categories such as paper, glass, plastic, aluminium cans and other metal objects. Once this is done, the separated waste can be either sold to an individual collector, put into recycling bins located at public areas or taken directly to a collection centre. The waste collected by the individual collector and the waste from recycling bins are purchased by the collection centre. At this centre, waste consisting of metal parts is sent to scrapyard, while other forms of waste such as paper and glass are sent to a recycling factory. The recycling factory is the final stage of the recycling chain. Here, the waste is recycled and given a new lease of life. For example, paper and glass are reprocessed into products that can be used by the consumer again. Metal parts from scarpyard are also sent to a recycling factory to be recycled. All these recycled products are ultimately used by the consumer again.

In short, the consumer plays a key role in the recycling chain. Without him, no waste is generated and therefore nothing is recycled.

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SECTION B: IDIOMS & PHRASAL VERBS [10 MARKS]

Question I (5 marks)
Instructions: Each sentence given below contains an idiom or phrase. Choose the one that best expresses the meaning of this idiom or phrase.

1. To be a good orator, you don't have to **play to the galleries**.
   A. to be prepared
   B. to offend audiences
   C. to appease select audience
   D. to appeal to the lower taste

2. She lost a big contract, and her boss **took her to task** in front of her colleagues.
   A. praised her
   B. rebuked her
   C. dismissed her
   D. promoted her

3. I am so tired; I am going to **hit the sack**.
   A. to take bath
   B. to go to bed
   C. to eat something
   D. to draw something

4. By disobeying the orders of his boss, John **stirred up a hornet's nest**.
   A. to be imprisoned
   B. to make a protest
   C. to invite a trouble
   D. to get severe punishment

5. When your grandparents tell stories about the past, you should take what they say with a **grain of salt** because they don't always remember things accurately.
   A. over enthusiastic
   B. too much interested
   C. very confident about it
   D. view something with skepticism

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Question II (5 marks)
Instructions: Complete the phrasal verbs and idioms using ***get*** in this story.

Our team worked so hard this year that we need to get _____ (1) for few days. We wanted to go to a place that we can get _____ (2) with all our teammates. We believe that if we can get _____ (3) each other, it will make us a great team. We also need to get _____ (4) all the disputes or disagreements that we had before. It is very crucial for all team players to get the message _____ (5) about the importance of teamwork in an organization to all team members.

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SECTION C: SUMMARY [15 MARKS]

Instructions: Read the following text carefully. Based on the information, write a summary of about **120 words** on ***reasons why people procrastinate.***

Any discussion of time management would not be complete without an examination of the most well-intentioned person's worst enemy which is procrastination. The dictionary defines procrastination as "the act of putting off intentionally and habitually the doing of something that should be done." Interestingly, most procrastinators do not feel that they are doing it intentionally. On the contrary, they feel that they fully intend to do whatever it is, but they simply just cannot do or will not do it. Procrastinators usually have good reasons for their actions like "didn't have time," "didn't feel well," "couldn't figure out what to do" and the list goes on.

Even procrastinators themselves know that the surface reasons for their procrastination are, for the most part, not valid. When procrastination becomes extreme, it is a self-destructive course, and yet, people feel that they are powerless to stop it. This perception can become a reality if the underlying cause is not uncovered. Experts have identified some of the serious underlying causes of procrastination. Think about them the next time you find yourself struck by this problem.

Often procrastination stems from a real or imagined fear or worry that is focused not so much on the thing you are avoiding but its potential consequences. For instance, your procrastination over preparing for an oral presentation could be based on your fear that no matter how well prepared you are, you will be overridden by nerves; moreover you tend to forget whatever you are prepared to say. Every time you think about working on the speech, you become so worried about doing "a bad job" that you have to put the whole thing out of your mind to calm down. You decide that you will feel calmer about it tomorrow and will be in a much better frame to tackle it. Tomorrow the scenario gets repeated. The best way to relieve your anxiety would be to dig in and prepare well so that you will not possibly do poorly.

Being a perfectionist is one of the main traits that spawns fear and anxiety. Whose expectation are we afraid of not meeting? Often it is our own harsh judgment of ourselves that creates the problem. We set standards that are too high and then judge ourselves too critically. When you picture yourself speaking before a group, are you thinking about how nervous the other students will be as well, or are you comparing your speaking abilities to the anchorperson on the six o'clock news? A more calming thought is to recall how athletes measure improvements in their performances by tracking and trying to improve on their own "personal best". Champions have to work on beating themselves in order to become capable of competing against their opponents. Concentrating on improving your own past performance and thinking of specific ways to do so relieves performance anxiety.

Often procrastination is due to an inability to concentrate or a feeling of being overwhelmed and indecisive. While everyone experiences these feelings during a particularly stressful day or week, a continuation of these feelings could indicate that you are in a state of burnout. Burnout is a serious problem that occurs when you have overextended yourself for

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too long a period of time. It is likely to occur if you are pushing yourself both physically and mentally. By failing to pace yourself, you will "hit the wall," like a long distance runner who runs too fast at the beginning of the race. Overworking yourself for too long without mental and physical relaxation is a sure way to run out of steam. Learning to balance your time and setting realistic expectations for yourself will prevent burnout.

Sometimes you put off doing something because you literally don't know how to do it. This may be hard to admit to yourself, so you may make other excuses. When you can't get started on something, consider the possibility that you need help. For example, if you get approval from your favourite instructor for a term paper topic that requires collecting data and graphics, you can be stymied if you don't have the necessary skills and tools to do the work well. Sometimes it is difficult to ask for help and sometimes it is even harder to recognize that you need help. Being able to own up to personal limitations and seeking out any support and resources where needed are skills used every day by highly successful people.

Adapted from: *Coping with Procrastination. (1997)*
Retrieved on 18th November 2017 from https://learnercenteredwritingteson2012.pbworks.com

End of Paper